Use of Oil Cess

525. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI KHAGEN DAS:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item titled "Oil cess may not be used exclusive for highway" which appeared in 'Business Standard' dated 7.2.2000;

(b) if so, the collection against cess on petrol levied in 1998 and the cess on diesel in 1999; and

(c) entitled allocation as per the budget statement of 1999 of States, Railways and Central Highways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b") and (c) The estimated collection of Additional duty of Excise and Customs on Motor Spirit and High Speed Diesel Oil is Rs. 850 crore and Rs. 4500 crore, respectively during the current year. The details of allocation are being placed today before the House as part of Budget 2000-01.

SEBI investigation into Price Rigging

526. SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA:
SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the SEBI investigation into the price rigging of BPL, Sterlite and Videocon has showed that the promoters were involved with Harshad Mehta; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and what action was taken on the basis of the findings of SEBI investigations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) and (b) investigations were undertaken by SEBI in the wake of abnormal trading in the